

(C) a description of barriers, if any, that exist with respect to efforts to recruit and retain young scientists and engineers, including the limited availability of full-time equivalent positions, legal and procedural requirements, and pay grading systems; and

(D) the amount of funding devoted to efforts to recruit and retain young researchers, and the source of the funds.

(h) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary, acting through the Director, to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013.

(Pub. L. 110-69, title V, §5006, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 615; Pub. L. 111-358, title IX, §902(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 4045.)

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 111-358 substituted “2013” for “2010”.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

§ 16535. Discovery science and engineering innovation institutes

(a) In general

The Secretary shall establish distributed, multidisciplinary institutes (referred to in this section as “Institutes”) centered at National Laboratories to apply fundamental science and engineering discoveries to technological innovations relating to—

- (1) the missions of the Department; and
- (2) the global competitiveness of the United States.

(b) Topical areas

The Institutes shall support scientific and engineering research and education activities on critical emerging technologies determined by the Secretary to be essential to global competitiveness, including activities relating to—

- (1) sustainable energy technologies;
- (2) multiscale materials and processes;
- (3) micro- and nano-engineering;
- (4) computational and information engineering; and
- (5) genomics and proteomics.

(c) Partnerships

In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish partnerships between the Institutes and—

- (1) institutions of higher education—
 - (A) to train undergraduate and graduate science and engineering students;
 - (B) to develop innovative undergraduate and graduate educational curricula; and
 - (C) to conduct research within the topical areas described in subsection (b); and
- (2) private industry to develop innovative technologies within the topical areas described in subsection (b).

(d) Grants

(1) In general

For each fiscal year, the Secretary may select not more than 3 Institutes to receive a grant under this section.

(2) Merit-based selection

The selection of Institutes under paragraph (1) shall be—

- (A) merit-based; and
- (B) made through an open, competitive selection process.

(3) Term

An Institute shall receive a grant under this section for not more than 3 fiscal years.

(e) Review

The Secretary shall offer to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the Academy shall, by not later than 3 years after August 9, 2007—

- (1) review the performance of the Institutes under this section; and
- (2) submit to Congress and the Secretary a report describing the results of the review.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to provide grants to each Institute selected under this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010.

(Pub. L. 110-69, title V, §5008, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 618.)

§ 16536. Protecting America’s Competitive Edge (PACE) graduate fellowship program

(a) Definition of eligible student

In this section, the term “eligible student” means a student who attends an institution of higher education that offers a doctoral degree in a field relevant to a mission area of the Department.

(b) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a graduate fellowship program for eligible students pursuing a doctoral degree in a mission area of the Department.

(c) Selection

(1) In general

The Secretary shall award fellowships to eligible students under this section through a competitive merit review process, involving written and oral interviews, that will result in a wide distribution of awards throughout the United States, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) Criteria

The Secretary shall establish selection criteria for awarding fellowships under this section that require an eligible student—

- (A) to pursue a field of science or engineering of importance to a mission area of the Department;
- (B) to demonstrate to the Secretary—
 - (i) the capacity of the eligible student to understand technical topics relating to the fellowship that can be derived from the first principles of the technical topics;